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News Release

ICE DEPORTS TEENAGE HONDURAN GANG MEMBER

Gang sexually assaulted 2 girls in suspected initiation rite at vacant Maryland apartment

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A 17-year-old Honduran citizen and MS-13 gang member convicted as an adult for participating in the sexual assault of two teenage girls in Maryland was deported today by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Reinaldo Ramos-Ramos, an illegal alien who entered the United States in June 2002 by crossing the Southwestern border, was one of 10 gang members who sexually assaulted the minor girls, ages 16 and 17, inside a vacant Adelphi, Md. apartment March 14, 2003.

The assaults might have been a savage gang initiation rite that calls for female gang prospects to either endure being "jumped in" through a beating by gang members, or be "sexed in" by multiple male gang members.

Ramos-Ramos was convicted as an adult July 26 in the circuit court of Prince George's County, Md. of 2nd Degree Sexual Offense. He was sentenced to 18 months time-served in an adult correctional facility. Upon his release from prison, Ramos-Ramos was turned over to ICE and processed for deportation to Honduras.

During fiscal year 2004, which ended Sept. 30, ICE detention and removal officers from Baltimore deported 2,782 criminal aliens, a five percent increase over FY-03. The office removed 4,115 aliens during the year as part of ICE's record year of deportations. ICE removed 157,281 aliens from the United States in FY-04, which is 12,000 more than the year before. Of those removed, nearly 53 percent were criminal aliens.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.

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